

Morningside Matters

*The Newsletter for Morningside Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)*

www.morningsidemeeting.org

March 2019

Calendar

Weekly	Sunday	Meeting for Worship	Riverside Church 490 Riverside Drive, room 12T (childcare provided in room 13T)	11:00 am
Monthly	First Sunday	Moving with the Spirit	room 12T	10:00 – 10:30 am
	First Sunday	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business	room 12T	12:30 pm
	Second Sunday	Bible study	room 12T	9:30 am
	Second Sunday	Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting: Everyone welcome:	room 12T	1:00 pm
	Fourth Sunday	Welcome Breakfast: An easy way of getting to know other members and attenders. Just tell the cashier you're with the Quakers. The tab is picked up by our hosts, the Ministry & Counsel Committee	Riverside Café	9:30 am
Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Meeting events	Every Wednesday	NYQM Call to Worship	15 th Street meeting	6:30 – 8:30 pm
	March 20	NYQM Worship around Jubilee Year	15 th Street meeting	6:30 – 8:30 pm
	March 24	Racial Justice Study Group: <i>Deep Denial</i>	room 12T	1:00 pm
	March 31	Presentation by Larry White	room 12T	1:00 pm
	April 5 – 7	NYYM Spring sessions	Nine Partners Region	
	April 21	Quarterly Business Meeting	15 th Street meeting	
	June 1	Morningside Meeting Spring Retreat	15 th Street meeting	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
	July 13	Quarterly Business Meeting	Prospect Park	
	July 21 – 27	NYYM Summer Sessions	Silver Bay	
	September 13 – 15	Morningside Meeting Fall Retreat	Stony Point	
	November 1 – 3	NYYM Fall sessions	TBD	
November 14 – 17	FCNL Annual Meeting	Washington, DC		
Events of interest	First Sundays	Vigil for Peace	Washington Square Arch	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	Saturdays	Vigil for Yemen	Union Square	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
	March 15 – 17	Couple Enrichment Retreat,	Pendle Hill	
	March 15 – 17	Resurrection, Before and After	Pendle Hill	

March 20	Bursting Forth: Celebrating New Life	Powell House	
March 22 – 24	Creativity and Spirituality	Powell House	
March 22 – 24	Upping your Change Game: Building Skills in Non-Violent Direct Action	Pendle Hill	
March 23 – 26	FCNL Spring lobby weekend: Join young people to lobby for immigration reform	Washington, DC	
March 24 – 29	Befriending Our Live, 7-day meditation retreat	Powell House	
March 26	George Lakey: <i>How Progressives Can Win</i>	National Writers Union, 256 West 38 th Street	7:00 pm
March 29 – 31	The Work that Reconnects	Pendle Hill	
March 29 – 31	They Gathered Around; Exploring a Call to Pastoral Ministry	Powell House	
April 1	Tumult, Turmoil and Truth – Vital Quaker Witness Today	Pendle Hill	
April 5 – 7	Alternatives to Violence Project: Training for Facilitators	Pendle Hill April 19-21	
April 6	Songs the Illuminate: Shining a Light on Our Hearts' Songs	Pendle Hill	
April 7	Liberation Poetry Coffeehouse	Pendle Hill	
April 13	Art the Liberates: Celebrating Creative Work by Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerate People	Pendle Hill	
April 19 – 21	Spring Work/Messiah Sing/Scavenger Hunt	Powell House	
April 26 – 28	Mindful Mark-Making, Abstract Drawing as Meditation	Pendle Hill	
May 4	Interfaith Solidarity Arts Picnic	Pendle Hill	
May 3 – 5	Clerking in the 21 st Century	Powell House	
May 5 – 9	John's Gospel: Refreshment and Challenge	Pendle Hill	
May 6	Walk in My Shoes: A Theater of Witness Film,	Pendle Hill	
May 9 – 12	Radical Faithfulness in Action	Pendle Hill	
May 12 – 17	The Wisdom of Jesus and the Light of Christ	Pendle Hill	
May 15 – 17	Couples Retreat	Pendle Hill	
May 17 – 19	Getting in Touch (with your true self),	Pendle Hill	
May 17 – 19	Providing Pastoral Care in All Kinds of Weather	Powell House	
May 19	Feel the Spirit and Dance!	Pendle Hill	
May 30 – June 2	Pendle Hill Quaker Institute	Pendle Hill	
June 7 – 12	Continuing Revolution 2019: Experimenting Beyond Capitalism	Pendle Hill	
June 14 – 16	Forgiveness as a Spiritual Practice	Powell House	
June 21 – 23	Nonviolent Communications: A Spiritual Practice and Act of Social Change	Powell House	
June 30 – July 6	FGC Gathering	Grinnell, Iowa	
July 11 – 14	Kairos: Silence, Contemplation and Scription	Pendle Hill	
July 26 – 28	The Spiritual Practice of Letting Go	Pendle Hill	
August 4	Visual Storytelling: The Transformative Art of Altered Book-Makin	Pendle Hill	
August 16 – 18	Cultivating Generous Congregations	Powell House	
September 15 – 17	Permaculture Design Certification	Powell House	
November 14 – 17	FCNL Quaker Public Policy Institute and Annual Meeting	Washington, DC	

Remember to check the Calendar and the Bulletin Board at www.morningsidemeeting.org

Newsletter Submission Guidelines: The purpose of the newsletter is to inform members, attenders and other interested people of Meeting news, including member interviews, news of Friends, other Quaker-related subjects, news of Quaker organizations, upcoming events, Meeting-sponsored projects, book reviews, etc. Articles and pictures are welcome. The deadline for the newsletter is the Sunday of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. Please e-mail your material in Word or text format to morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com by the end of that day. Past issues of the newsletter are archived at www.morningsidemeeting.org.

Reflection

For the real difference between happiness and joy is that one is grounded in this world, the other in eternity. Happiness cannot encompass suffering and evil. Joy can. Happiness depends on the present. Joy leaps into the future and triumphantly creates a new present out of it.

Elise Boulding

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business March 3, 2019

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:30 p.m., and Jane Alexandre read a selection from Rufus Jones [Social Law in the Spiritual World](#):

“There is no visible head to the Society [of Friends], nor in any of its local groups. There is no adopted creed or written code by which the ‘views’ of the members are tested and settled. It is an organic spiritual group, each member partaking of the life and truth of the whole body, and making [one’s] own contribution to the progressive revelation of the truth.

“It is often called an extremely democratic body. But if by ‘democratic’ one means that the individuals may think and say and do whatever they choose, then it is not democratic. It is a growing organism in which everyone has [their] free life and yet everyone at the same time is subordinate to the whole.”
2. Daniel A. Seeger gave the Treasurer’s Report. Friends accept the report, and the written report is attached.
3. Ed Elder read the report for Ministry and Counsel. M&C met on Monday, February 25th at the home of Pamela Wood. The next meeting will be at the home of Pamela Wood on Monday, April 1st at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP to Pam. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
4. Friends approve the request of June Tano for transfer of membership from Scarsdale Meeting to Morningside Meeting.
5. The Welcome Committee for June Tano will consist of: Pamela Wood, Bryan Wigfall, Sally Campbell, Richard Schmidt and Nancy Britton.
6. Friends discussed M&C breaking Meeting for Worship every Sunday, except for the Sunday of Meeting for Business. M&C will take the discussion back to their next meeting, considering the concern to involve newer members and attenders in this task.
7. Corona Macheimer gave the Peace and Social Concerns Report with the proposed budget. The next meeting of P&SC will be on March 10th. Friends accept the report. The written report and proposed budget are attached.
8. Corona Macheimer gave a Communications Committee Report. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
9. Friends approve the Communications Committee budget allocations of \$500 for Outreach; \$600 for the 2019 Address Register; and \$500 for the website.
10. Friends approve Morningside to host a brown bag lunch & worship under its care at the QUNO office.
11. Friends made Announcements.
12. Friends approved these minutes. The meeting ended with worship at 1:40p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen McDonnell

Present: David Fletcher, Sally Campbell, Corona Macheimer, Dorothy Savage, Rich Schmidt, Kathy Stackhouse, David Britton, Ernie Buscemi, Bryan Oettel, Carly Rogers, Bryan Wigfall, Charlene Ray, Edward Elder, Pamela Wood, Ronald Rieder, Peter Beck, Jerry Reisig, Tom Goodridge, Daniel A. Seeger, Nancy Britton, Robert Renwick, Jane Alexandre, Stephen McDonnell.

Treasurer's Report

As is to be expected, activity has been light during the first two months of the fiscal year. This is shown in the attached table.

Thanks to the members and attenders who give automatically on a monthly basis, income has slightly exceeded expenses - the red figures on the total line being misleading for several reasons. One large expense, the \$1,200.00 deposit to hold Stony Point Center for the fall retreat, will presumably be cancelled out when participants' retreat fees are paid. The quarterly payment to Yearly Meeting, if amortized over two months rather than three, would be \$2,887.50 rather than \$4,331.25. Finally, the income does

include, along with the automatic monthly donations, one annual foundation gift of \$2,000.00.

It is not important to attend to all these details. Suffice it to say that the first two months of low activity provide no really significant indication of the Meeting's adherence to budgeted income and expense targets. That picture will emerge more clearly as the months progress.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

Income/Expense by Category

1/1/2019 through 2/28/2019 (Cash Bass)

Category	1/1/2019- 1/31/2019	2/1/2019- 2/28/2019	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME			
General Fund Contribution	643.00	4,115.00	4,758.00
Interest and Dividends	2.05	0.00	2.05
TOTAL INCOME	645.05	4,115.00	4,760.05
EXPENSES			
NYYM Allocation	0.00	4,331.25	4,331.25
Operations, Comm. - Website	120.00	0.00	120.00
Retreat Expense	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,320.00	4,331.25	5,651.25
OVERALL TOTAL	-674.95	-216.25	-891.20

Ministry and Counsel Committee Report

Ministry & Council met on 2/25/19 at the home of Pam Wood. Our next Meeting will be on Monday, April 1 at Pam Wood's apartment at 7:15 pm. The first part of the meeting is open to all (please let Pam know that you are coming). The second part is to consider support and clearness committee concerns. We currently have 9 on-going support or clearness committees.

We agreed that Pam Wood will host the 4th Sunday breakfast in March, Charlene Ray will host in April and Ron Rieder will host in May.

We have decided to resume calling people who sign the red book

We want to propose a change in who breaks Meeting each week. We propose that someone from M&C break Meeting every Sunday, except for the Sunday of Meeting for Business.

We are planning to consult with our space coordinator and Riverside as to whether, where and when we could post a sign announcing that we are meeting on the 12th Fl. We are

considering finding some art work that is Quaker related to put on the walls. This could be posters of queries or other Quaker themes, or art work by Friends (e.g. Hick's Peaceable Kingdom paintings.) We are seeking ways to make the space friendlier. Once a month we will ask everyone to say their names at the rise of Meeting.

We will have a discussion of the Jubilee Queries on the 3rd Sunday, March 17. Ed will see if Beth Kelly can come. Jerry will clerk the meeting.

We are planning a Spring Retreat for June 1st. We are considering themes that focus on Meeting for Worship. Some of our proposed themes are: What is our experience in Meeting? How do we experience the Spirit outside of Meeting? What have people said that was meaningful or what would you like to hear? What are my gifts? Telling our stories? If you had one wish, what would you like to come true? Concerns around aging. We welcome other thoughts.

Our fall retreat is planned for Sept. 12 – 15. We will focus on our relationship with nature.

We agreed to call our after-Meeting time, “fellowship,” rather than refreshments, as a way to emphasize the gathering together as a community.

We are forwarding June Tano’s request for transfer of membership from Scarsdale Meeting to Morningside Meeting with a recommendation for approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Elder, clerk, M&C

Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

Peace & Social Concerns met on Sunday, February 17, 2019. Attending were Sally Campbell; Richard Schmidt; Kathy Stackhouse; Arthur Kauffman; Dave Britton; Robert Renwick; Cihangir Akinci; Anne Wright; Corona Machermer (Clerk).

1. The committee welcomed three guests/newcomers. Anne Wright of Scarsdale Meeting brought her friend Cihangir Akinci, who is from Turkey. He is the IT Manager and Westchester Chapter Representative of the Peace islands Institute, a non-profit, interfaith organization, which develops programs to promote harmony among peoples of different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds. (www.peaceislands.org).

Arthur Kauffman is new to Friends. He teaches high-school English in the South Bronx and has a particular concern for LGBTQ students.

2. Most of the meeting was taken up with the Peace & Social Concerns Budget for 2019. A copy of the tentative allocations is attached. (NB: Final decisions will be taken at the P&SC meeting on March 10. The final version of the budget will include liaisons’ email addresses.) Friends should let the committee know ASAP of any concerns. The committee allocated a total of \$12,350 in contributions. The remaining \$1,650 of the \$14,000 budgeted by the Meeting for 2019 is being held for future contingencies and/or emergencies.

3. The committee proposes the following changes in the list of organizations to which we contribute (more information on the new ones will be communicated to the Meeting through the Email list and the newsletter):

- a. Hopper Home. NEW. Added to replaces Huntington House. While the Meeting gives many in-kind donations to Huntington House, reducing its need for financial support, the Hopper Home Transitional Shelter, which is also operated by the Women’s Prison Association, does not yet receive this kind of support. For more, go to www.wpaonline.org/services/reentry-services. Helen Garay Toppins is liaison. Amount: \$200.

- b. Black & Pink, New York City Chapter. NEW. The organization describes itself an “open family of LGBTQ prisoners and ‘free world’ allies who support each other.” (www.blackandpink.org) David Fletcher is liaison. Amount: \$250. [David adds that the NYC Chapter focuses on young LGBTQ people of color in prison and coming out.]

- c. The RAPP (Release Aging People from Prison) Campaign. NEW. (www.rappcampaign.com) Pam Wood is liaison. Amount: \$300

- d. New Sanctuary Coalition of New York City. TENTATIVE. Organization founded by Ravi Ragbir (husband of Amy Gottlieb of AFSC). Kathy Stackhouse is liaison. Amount: \$250. MORE INFO NEEDED.

- e. Eastern Farm Workers Association. TENTATIVE. Local organization replaces Coalition of Immokalee Workers, which is now relatively well-known and funded. David Britton is liaison. Amount: \$200. MORE INFO NEEDED.

- f. At Helen Garay Toppins’ request, we propose removing the Redemption Center from our list. It has been adopted by the Judson Memorial Church Board of Trustees, which has put it in their budget. [Pam Wood questions this decision. Issue to be resolved at next P&SC meeting.]

4. We propose the following increases in contributions:

- a. Sacred Heart Church School, Camden, NJ, from \$200 to \$300. This amount supports one student at the school for one year.
- b. AFSC Healing and Justice NE Region, from \$600 to \$850, with \$600 going to the Liberation Summer Advocacy Training Camp as before, and \$250 going to the Immigrant Rights Program, Newark, NJ.
- c. NYQM Africa Education Committee, from \$800 to \$1000, with the additional \$200 being designated for the Higher Education Fund.

The Next Meeting of Peace & Social Concern will be on March 10 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Machemer, Acting as Clerk

Communications Committee Report

The committee met on Wednesday, February 27. Attending at Bryan Oettel's home were Bryan and Corona Machemer, who acted as clerk. Kathy Stackhouse attended by speaker-phone.

1. **The Budget (increase requested):** In addition to the \$500 for Outreach (advertising and lists) and the \$600 for the 2019 Address Register, the committee decided to request \$500 for the website, since the changes we are looking at will probably involve changing the platform (see below). Bryan will give info to Finance Committee. [Business Meeting approved budget request.]

2. **Outreach:** The comments made by Friends on this subject at the last Business Meeting were discussed. Since Emily could not attend the meeting, we did not come to any firm conclusions. We did discuss extending the coverage of the ads to include two additional zip-codes. The original ads covered three zip-codes, 10025, 10026 and 10027. We considered adding codes 10031 and 10032, which are just north of 10027 along the river. People living there tend to be younger adults than in the zip codes south of 10025. (See the attached map.) Adding zip codes costs more money, so no final decision has been made.

3. **Photos:** The photo shoot is still scheduled for March 31. As previously stated, Friends who are willing to be included will be invited to participate (with or without having their faces "show"). No children will be involved. (Having only the willing participate means we can avoid having to get individual releases.) The photo shoot will be announced on the Website Bulletin Board and by Email to the Data Base.

The committee will also be inviting Morningsiders, including the clerks of committees, to send us their own photos from Morningside events such as committee meetings, retreats and other occasions. (Before using any of these, permission will be obtained from the people recognizable in them.)

All photos will be part of a "library" of images for use in outreach, on Facebook and on the Website.

4. **Address Register:** We presented a printout of the current database for checking by Friends on Sunday February 17 and Sunday February 24. We are presenting it again today and will present it one more time on March 9. After that it will be turned over to Ministry & Counsel for winnowing. Once M&C has

finished with it, we will correct the data base as needed, complete the Register and distribute it to Friends either electronically (by email) or as hard copy (by post or after Meeting for Worship), depending on their preferences.

5. **Google Group:** Having finally nailed down the procedure, the committee is at last ready to issue invitations to join the new Google group, MorningsideQuakers2.

6. **Website:** The committee discussed how to proceed on the website, and how best to elicit suggestions from Morningsiders. Would Morningsiders be interested in attending a third-Sunday brain-storming session? Would a Survey Monkey on the subject be useful? To make the site more user-friendly, it is probable we will have to change the platform from Drupal to WordPress. This would mean that the database would probably have to be removed from the site and managed separately (which was the case for years, after all). To compensate for losing the "Friend Finder" function, we could issue the address register more frequently.

7. **Replacement for Emily Bishop:** As reported at Business Meeting in February, it is almost certain that Emily Bishop will be moving to Brooklyn in the coming months (by the end of May), and will no longer be available to deal with the Facebook page and the ad campaign, except as an occasional consultant. The committee urgently needs a knowledgeable and willing volunteer to join us in managing these efforts.

8. As always, Friends are reminded to use the Website, www.morningsidemeeting.org, especially the Calendar and the Bulletin Board, both to see what's happening and to post events. (If you have trouble, check out the Help section on the site or contact a member of the committee.) Note that on the Website you can also find back issues of the newsletter, who's on committees, the budget, State of the Meeting Reports, and much more.

9. The next meeting of the committee will be later in March.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Machemer, Acting as Clerk